

Peulat Shabbat – Parashat Va'etchanan

Begin all together in the Moadon. Briefly explain peulah, and break into six groups. Each group receives one of three ethical dilemmas to discuss. Ultimately, they will have to represent a specific side of their dilemma in a mock court.

Case #1 – דמא תאו דייבא תא דבכ –

Your parents ask you to rake the leaves from your yard into your neighbor's yard, because they rake more frequently than your family does, and it is safe to assume they will get rid of their leaves soon anyway. You have no problem raking the leaves, but do you dump them in your neighbor's yard or disobey your parents?

Case #2 – דער תיב דומחת אל/בונגת אל –

Modern American society is home to a great deal of greed. Walking down the street, you find \$500. There is no one around. Do you go out of your way to try returning it to its owner or do you keep the money and treat yourself to something nice, even just put it away for future use?

Case #3 – חצרת אל –

The death penalty is currently used to punish people who have committed crimes of the highest severity, such as murder. Does it make sense to kill someone for murder, or is that simply repeating the sin?

20 minutes discussing in groups and preparing talking points.

Meet back at Little House for mock court (15 minutes).

Start with Case #1. Each side has 1 minute to present their argument, then 30 seconds to respond to the other team. Finally, we take a question from the audience or the judge, and each side has 30 seconds to respond. Judge then makes a decision about the case.

Repeat this for the other 2 cases.

החנמל רשי!